

TARC Communicator



Official Publication of the Titusville Amateur Radio Club

www.k4ksc.com

**Volume III, Issue 7
July 2026**

Our primary mission is to provide for education, training, maintenance, licensing and testing of Amateur Radio Operators as defined in FCC Regulations Part 97.

Our purpose is to foster comradery among fellow Amateur Radio Operators within the North Brevard, Florida area through social events and organized Ham radio contests.

A 501c3 federal tax-exempt nonprofit organization. EIN 39-4794447

Weekly On-the-Air Nets

Name	Frequency	Day	Time	Net Control
2 Meter SSB Net	144.210 MHz USB	Monday	7:00 PM	George WG4ES
Skywarn Net	146.970 MHz	Tuesday	7:00 PM	Barry N4NMF
Mosquito Net	28.333 MHz USB	Wednesday	7:00 PM	George WG4ES
Friendship Traders Net	146.970 MHz	Thursday	7:00 PM	Keith W4KWD
Magic 6 Meter Net	50.250 MHz USB	Friday	7:00 PM	Mike KW4DX

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PRESIDENTS Message

Field Day 2026 is in the club history books!

My personal thanks to Greg Hand – KK4LWB for his passion and outstanding leadership for this great Public Service and Training event and everything he does for the club.

His enthusiasm is contagious!

As I complete my first 6 months as President, I am proud of all our accomplishments. We have had 3 Successful Contests, hosted our annual Mosquito Tail Gate, inspected 2 of our repeater sites for operational issues, cleaned up and replaced the anchor points at the Denman Repeater site, started Public Outreach by speaking at the Masonic Lodge and monthly displays at the Titusville Library.

Our TARC Club is more than a Club it is a great example of Teamwork and dedication to public service and education.

Diane N4DCK

President

Diane Kennedy ~ N4DCK
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Vice President

Keith DeSoto ~ W4KWD
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Secretary

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Treasurer

Steve Schindler ~ NA4SA
treasurer@k4ksc.com

Director

Roy Merritt ~ NARKM
rkmeritt@yahoo.co.uk



Titusville Amateur Radio Club (K4KSC) Meeting

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: June 23, 2026 **Time:** 7:00 PM EDT **Location:** Masonic Lodge, Titusville, Florida

Chaired By: Diane (N4DCK), President

1. Call to Order & Welcome

- **Call to Order:** President Diane (N4DCK) called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
- **Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice-President Keith (W4KWD) led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introductions: Attendees went around the room introducing themselves by name, call sign, and home city. A warm welcome was extended to all visitors, including a new visitor Mike McClary (N6MO) originating from Cupertino, California.

2. New Member Applications & Approvals

- An application was presented for new member JoAnn Sullivan KR4NDW, who recently passed her licensing exam.
- An application was presented for William Meyer.

Action taken: Both applications were formally voted on and unanimously approved by the membership.

3. Officer Reports

- **Treasurer's Report:**

- The club experienced a quiet financial month.
- **Income:** \$0.84 (earned via savings and checking account dividends).
- **Total Cash Balance:** \$9,916.08.
- *Motion to approve:* Formally moved, seconded, and passed.

- **Secretary's Report:**

Motion to approve: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the May 26, 2026, meeting as published in the early June 2026 issue of the club *Communicator*. The motion carried.

4. Committee & Coordinator Reports

Net Coordinator Report (Barry, N4NMF)

The club currently coordinates five weekly nets at 7:00 PM, typically drawing 7 to 10 participants each:

Technical Committee Report (Dave, KY4F)

- All club repeaters are fully up and running.
- The PL tone timer settings change (146.970 MHz) has been successfully resolved.
- Investigations have begun into linking the repeaters together.
- A previously noted software password issue has been resolved.

Repeater Power Status: It was noted that the club repeaters are functionally resilient, including setups utilizing solar power and generator backups.

Public Information Officer (PIO) Report (Greg Hand, KK4LWB)

Titusville Library Outreach: The monthly membership and information drives at the Titusville Public Library initiated this month. Held on the third Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM inside the air-conditioned vestibule, the event saw excellent foot traffic with over 100 visitors.

- **Materials & Displays:** The TARC Library setup features a standout banner, and A-Frame road sign, a club-owned all-in-one computer w/ Windows 11 and Microsoft Office, abbreviated copies of the Club *Communicator* newsletter, Tri-Fold TARC Brochures, Tri-Fold POTA Brochures, and promotional QR-code reusable grocery bags for distribution.
- **Watch Bill:** Mike Elledge (KC4JEM) and Greg Hand (KK4LWB) will anchor the table for the next two months to streamline operations before establishing a revolving 12-month club volunteer watch bill (two-person teams per month).

Meeting Minutes Continued

5. Old & New Business

- **Downtown 4th of July Booth:** Mayor Connors approached the club regarding setting up an outreach booth in downtown Titusville for the upcoming July 4th celebration (events begin at 9:00 AM, concluding with evening fire-works). Due to the short notice for coordinating equipment and manning shifts, the club discussed looking into a formal contact point via the mayor's office to potentially target a fully planned rollout for July 4th, 2027.

Emergency Communication Protocols: Mike Elledge (KC4JEM) is heading up a new working group alongside Steve Schindler (NA4SA) and Roy Merritt (N4RKM) to establish clear club emergency communication protocols. The initiative will focus on backup messaging methods for family members during internet outages, checking local repeater operational limits, and identifying members with whole-house generators who can offer support (e.g., emergency freezer space) during heavy regional flooding. Further details will be published in the *TARC Communicator*.

6. ARRL Summer Field Day Training & Logistics

Greg Hand (KK4LWB) and Mike Elledge (KC4JEM) conducted a briefing ahead of the upcoming **ARRL Summer Field Day at Fox Lake Park (June 27–28, 2026)**.

- **Location & Setup:** Held at Pavilion 2. Signs will be posted along the entry loop. Setup begins **Saturday, June 27 at 10:00 AM**. Volunteers are strongly urged to arrive early to assist.
- **Operation Timeline:** On-air operations run continuously for 24 hours starting **Saturday at 2:00 PM through Sunday at 5:00 PM**.
- **Station & Antenna Lineup (Class 4A - up to 4 simultaneous transmitters):**
 - *Station 1:* Icom IC-7300 (Victor 1) paired with a Cushcraft A3S 3-band beam antenna (10/15/20 meters). Team led by Paul Fee (N6PDF).
 - *Station 2:* Icom IC-7300 (Victor 2) paired with a BuddyTex hex-beam antenna (20 through 6 meters). Team led by Roy Merritt (N4RKM).
 - *Station 3:* Icom IC-7300 (Victor 3?) paired with a fan dipole antenna (80/40/15 meters). Setup assistance by Mike Daniels (KW4DX).
 - *GOTA (Get On The Air) Station:* Available for unlicensed visitors, spouses, children, or newcomers to gain hands-on experience under the guidance of a licensed control operator. Team led by Roy Merritt (N4RKM).
- **Operator Tips:** Operators are welcome to bring an SD card containing personal Icom configurations. Members are also encouraged to bring their own headsets (most club operators use Heil variants, though standard 1/8" jacks are accessible).
- **Logging Software Tutorial:** Mike Elledge (KC4JEM) demonstrated the N3FJP Contest Log software (Field Day Version).
- The software is fully updated and will automatically load the club call sign (**K4KSC**), location data, and Class **4A / South Florida (SFL)** section.
- Operators must input their individual call sign and initials under the setup menu to ensure proper contact tracking.
- Duplicate contacts will generate an automatic warning. A paper notepad system will be available next to the rigs for operators who prefer to have a second member log data into the computer manually.
- **Hospitality & Food:**
- **Saturday Potluck:** Begins at 5:00 PM. The club will not be providing a primary meat protein; members must bring their own main dishes, dietary-specific meals, or sides to share.
 - **Daytime Provisions:** "Grab-and-go" lunch items for working volunteers will be stored in the back of the air-conditioned communications trailer to stay cool. All attendees are urged to stay hydrated.

7. Adjournment

Following the Field Day technical brief and an invitation for members to practice using the logging software interface at the front table, the floor was cleared. The meeting concluded ahead of individual training sessions. The meeting was adjourned by motion from the floor at 7:44 pm.

• **Minutes Submitted By:** [Greg Hand – KK4LWB]

Club News

NEXT MEETING IS JULY 28, 2026 at 7:00 PM

*Indian River Masonic Lodge, 19 N. Washington Ave. located at the Corner of S. Washington Ave.
(Rte. 1) and Garden St.*

Visit Us on Facebook!!

Our new Facebook Public Page is online now! It's a work in progress, Please go there to like and follow us. <https://www.facebook.com/K4KSC/>
I'm looking for club photos to post!!

Consider joining our Facebook Private Group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/447071731203431>

Visit Us on Online!! Find us online at: www.K4KSC.com

Titusville Amateur Radio Club Membership Application (All Current Members Primary, Family or Life **must fill out this Application**. The form is available on our website K4KSC.COM or copies will be available at each meeting.

* Checks are made out to **Titusville Amateur Radio Club**

Dues are prorated after April 1st of each year.

* If applicable, please put your callsign in the memo field of your check.

If you wish to pay in cash (correct change is appreciated), please bring it and your completed Membership Application to the meeting and give it to Steve – NA4SA our Treasurer.

Titusville ARC Call Sign / Name Badges – \$11.00 each (+Tax) and price is **subject to change**.

These **can be ordered directly** by getting a form from Barry N4NMF

Then fill out the Form and take it to :

Award Trophy – 4424 S. Hopkins Ave

Titusville 32780

Phone: (321) 269-7584.

You can talk with Kevin or other staff members whom will be glad to help you place your order.

You can also contact Barry N4NMF for help or questions about ordering them.



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: TARC Crushes ARRL Field Day 2026!

What a weekend! The antennas are down, the trailers are packed away, and the logs are officially submitted—and wow, we finished **just shy of 900 QSOs!** The Titusville Amateur Radio Club officially brought the noise to Fox Lake Park for ARRL Field Day 2026, and the results were nothing short of spectacular.

We welcomed **31 visitors** from our local community who got a firsthand look at the power of amateur radio. Across the

board, our club operators kept the airwaves buzzing using SSB Voice, CW, and various Digital Modes, proving that TARC knows how to make some serious noise on the bands!

None of this would be possible without the incredible Elmers who stepped up to mentor and teach. From breaking down the magic of Flex Software Defined Radios (SDRs) and decoding the mysteries of the FT8 digital mode, to demonstrating the fine art of working massive pileups, our experienced hams made sure everyone walked away with new skills.

A Massive TARC Thank You

An event of this magnitude takes meticulous planning, heavy lifting, and flawless logistics. We want to extend a massive thank you to the key players who made this look easy:

- **Tom (KN4GLO) & Sally (KN4HPX):** For working tirelessly behind the scenes to prepare the antennas and club trailers prior to the event.
- **Dave (KY4F) & Paul (N6PDF):** For handling the heavy hauling, expertly transporting the club trailers to and from Fox Lake Park.
- **Diane (N4DCK), Stephanie (K4MVO), & The Kitchen Crew:** For ensuring our volunteers were treated to a rockstar lineup of tasty food options to keep our operating energy high.
- **Mike (KW4DX), Rick (KB4MIS), & The Night Shift Warriors:** For staying up into the early hours, braving the local iguana rumors, and literally working the world while the rest of the planet slept.



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: TARC Crushes ARRL Field Day 2026! - Continued**Honored Guests & VIP QSOs**

We were incredibly fortunate to enjoy the excellent company, field guidance, and—let's be honest—the fantastic bonus points provided by our distinguished visitors:

- **Titusville Mayor Andrew Connors & Family**
- **Ricky DeLuco (K4JTT)** — ARRL Southern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator
- **Mickey Baker (N4MB)** — ARRL Southeastern Division Director

Built by the Whole Club

At the end of the day, none of this is possible without the entire club doing the lifting. TARC is made up of a diverse group of individuals, and every single member brought their own unique, specialized talents to the table this weekend. It is exactly from those varied talents that big, booming, successful events like this are born. Thank you all for your time, your effort, and your dedication to making Field Day 2026 an absolute triumph!

73,

Greg Hand – KK4LWB

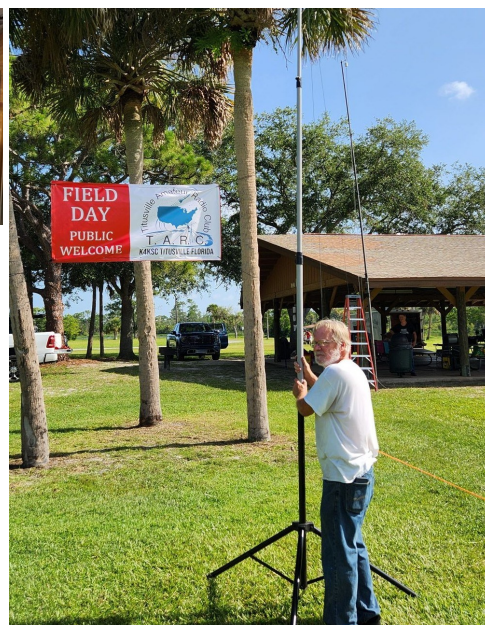
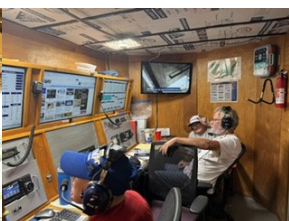
greg.kk4lwb@gmail.com

Relive the Weekend: Want to see the crew in action, check out the mobile tower setup, or find a picture of yourself at the key? TARC members can view the official event photo gallery right here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ZGF79jbdraWYWtQd9>



#K4KSC #TARC
#ARRLFieldDay
#FieldDay2026
#HamRadio
#TitusvilleFL
#AmateurRadio
#STEM #ARRLFD

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: TARC Crushes ARRL Field Day 2026! - Continued





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Looking for Volunteers for future months .

Emergency Communication Protocols:

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Your suggestions and comments can be directed to Mike or Steve.



Article Submitted by Rick Bunton KB4MIS
Special acknowledgement to KC1 YL Lisa.

The title tells all. What could be better than playing ham radio in the outdoors? This picture defines POTA - Parks on the Air. Literally, going to a park, setting up a portable station, activating the park (explanation to follow), making many QSOs even with pile-ups from time to time and submitting your logs for credit.



Let me walk back a few steps. My journey into POTA was born with the help of a fellow ham and darn good radio operator named Lisa KC1 YL. She did a presentation at the St. Petersburg Amateur Radio club (SPARC) meeting that inspired me. I asked if she would mentor me and with open arms took me under wing. It was awesome. My first pile up was at a local park. Nothing short of 200 qsos in rapid order. From then on I was hooked. Becoming a POTA activator is very satisfying. You are top dog and every hunter out there wants to be logged.

So what do these terms mean? Well, in brief an activator is any ham who registers on the POTA website, goes to a recognized or sanctioned park and makes at least 10 QSOs. That log is then uploaded on the POTA website. See <https://pota.app/#/> Visit the website to learn all the details. Hunters, those aiming to make contact with activators are key to a successful activation. Hunters don't need to upload a log as the activator already does that for them. Also in the mix are Park to Park {P2P} q's. Logging these parks takes an extra step in logging. You need to copy their park and share your park numbers.

Sounds confusing but after 1 or 2 q's it becomes second nature.

Logging is easy with paper & pencil or various apps. Visit Google play store or IOS store for a list of apps.



Article Submitted by Rick Bunton KB4MIS—Continued

So back to my story. During the year I aim to activate different parks, usually local ones first. Not all activations include camping as many of the parks don't offer camping. Example Palm Bluff Conservation Area US-8366. Notice the designations "US" stateside, and a 4 or 5 digit number. Other countries have different designations ie Canada "CA". The app provides all the info you will need.

Once you are registered it tracks all of your activity. As of today I have 130 activations, 36 unique parks, and 5935 q's. **Wow, I've been radioactive!** As I mentioned in the first paragraph to be a POT A activator you need to get out to a park. But then what? Well it's like a mini field day. You assemble equipment, maybe take a lunch and drinks, and spend time on the Air. Some parks provide electric, while others require you to use battery power. I am prepared for both. My POTA station consists of my Icom 7100 and tuner, a laptop or tablet/phone, 2 antennas (Chameleon tactical delts loop and Wolf River coil with 17' whip). I have 2 20 Ah LiPo batteries. A couple of cw keys.

Now I'm ready to go.

After setting up my camp site, to get back to my original story I log into the POTA app and register my info: POTA park, call sign of activator, spotter (same as activator but others can spot you too), operating frequency, and any comments. That achieved it's like field day just CQ POTA with your call. Typically others are seeing you spotted and tune to your frequency or the rbn net spots you. Be prepared as you may get a pile up immediately depending on band conditions. I like to jump around on different bands to give operators who may be limited to the other bands as a single band wire antenna, etc. Also mobile and QRP operators hang out on the other bands too. There are no limits to what band you operate on. Choose an area of the band that all ops have access to and avoid nets, areas allocated to special activity ie SSTV, PSK, WSJT.

So to sum it up, what is better than a day in the field playing ham radio? Nothing at all. POTA ON~ **Rick Bunton KB4MIS**



On-Air Events

<https://www.w7aia.org/>

13 Colonies Special Event

Submitted by Barry N4NMF

July 1 @ 9:00 am - July 7 @ 11:59 pm EDT

UTC Dates and Times

Begin: Tuesday July 01, 2026 at 1300Z

End: Tuesday July 08, 2026 at 0400Z

Work Special Event Stations K2A – K2M representing each of the original Thirteen Colonies

K2A New York, K2B Virginia, K2C Rhode Island, K2D Connecticut, K2E Delaware, K2F Maryland, K2G Georgia, K2H Massachusetts, K2I New Jersey, K2J North Carolina, K2K New Hampshire, K2L South Carolina, K2M Pennsylvania plus two bonus stations: GB13COL, England; TM13COL, France and WM3PEN, the William Penn Station in Philadelphia.

EVENT WEBSITE link: <http://13colonies.us/>



On-Air Events



US National Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend (NLLW)

Submitted by Barry N4NMF

Celebrating National Lighthouse Day

Coinciding with the [US National Lighthouse Day](#), the US National Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend (NLLW) is an annual lighthouse operating and activation opportunity celebrating the anniversary of the establishment of the United States federal lighthouse service. This is a day to celebrate lighthouses, lightships and the commitment and service of those who tended America's lights for generations.

Dates

National Lighthouse Day is [unofficially August 7th](#) each year. This is FRIDAY August 7th for 2026 making the following weekend the event dates of August 8th and 9th.

<https://arlhs.com/events/national-lighthouse-lightship-week-nllw/>

Route 66 On the Air: 100th Anniversary

Submitted by Greg KK4LWB

Date: September 12 - 20, 2026

This event is a national phenomenon. Working all 20+ "Mother Road" stations could be a fun club challenge that can be done from our home shacks while chatting on a local repeater.

<https://www.nadxa.com/>

<https://w6jbt.org/>

<https://www.arrl.org/news/route-66-on-the-air-special-event-1>



2026 MONTHLY EVENTS

July 18 Library Outreach	Titusville Public Library	10 AM - 2 PM
July 28 MONTHLY MEETING	Masonic Lodge	7 PM
August 15 Library Outreach	Titusville Public Library	10 AM - 2 PM
August 25 MONTHLY MEETING	Masonic Lodge	7 PM
September 19 Library Outreach	Titusville Public Library	10 AM - 2 PM
September 22 MONTHLY MEETING	Masonic Lodge	7 PM
October 18 Library Outreach	Titusville Public Library	10 AM - 2 PM
October 27: Annual Potluck	Masonic Lodge	Dinner: 6 PM
November 21 Library Outreach	Titusville Public Library	10 AM - 2 PM
November 24 MONTHLY MEETING	Masonic Lodge	7 PM
December 10: Annual Holiday Party	Dixie Crossroads	Dinner: 6 PM

2027 MONTHLY EVENTS

JANUARY 23-24: Winter Field Day	KN4GLO QTH	Coordinator: Greg KK4LBW
MARCH 20: Annual Mosquito Tailgate	Fox Lake Park	
MARCH 21: 321 Day	Space View Park	
April 24 -25: Florida QSO	KN4GLO QTH	
June 26 – 27: ARRL Field Day	Fox Lake Park	
June 26 Field Day POT LUCK Supper	Fox Lake Park	Dinner: 5 PM
July 4 Special Event Booth	Downtown	

Visit Us at K4KSC.COM